

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 122762
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 INT-05 IO-13 SS-15 SP-02
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EA/ANP:WBODDE (SUBS)
L/UN:DSTEWART (SUBS)
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-----100080 140215Z /65

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI PRIORITY

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PASS STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, TQ, US, JA

SUBJECT: MICRONESIAN WAR CLAIMS

1. PRIOR TO MEETING WITH GOJ, EMBASSY SHOULD DISCUSS
APPROACH WITH MICRONESIAN DELEGATION, MAKING FOLLOWING
POINTS:

(A) AS MICRONESIANS AWARE, THE US IS IN A DIFFICULT POSITION
CONCERNING THE ISSUE OF WAR CLAIMS. ON THE ONE HAND,
JAPAN'S CONSISTENT LEGAL POSITION IN THE MATTER (WITH WHICH
WE BASICALLY AGREE) HAS BEEN THAT THE 1969 AGREEMENT
ABSOLVES THEM OF ANY ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY THEY MAY
HAVE HAD TO PAY SUCH CLAIMS, AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES
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HAVE REITERATED TO US ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS THAT THEY ARE
NOT ABOUT TO CHANGE THAT POSITION.

(B) AT THE SAME TIME, THE US IS FULLY AWARE THAT A CASE
CAN BE MADE FOR COMPENSATING THE MICRONESIANS IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE AWARDS OF THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION. WE
ARE ALSO MINDFUL OF OUR OBLIGATIONS AS ADMINISTERING

AUTHORITY OF THE TRUST TERRITORY.

(C) DIRECT US PRESSURE ON THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IN THIS MATTER IS NOT, IN OUR VIEW, LIKELY TO BE PRODUCTIVE AND

COULD IN FACT DIMINISH ANY CHANCES OF OBTAINING SATISFACTION FROM THE JAPANESE. AS WE SEE IT, THE ONLY REAL HOPE FOR A JAPANESE HEARING OF YOUR CASE WOULD BE AN APPEAL TO THE GOJ ON THE GROUNDS THAT, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT NEITHER THE US NOR JAPAN ACKNOWLEDGED LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY, THE TITLE I CLAIMS SHOULD BE FULLY PAID. SUCH AN APPEAL SHOULD BE MADE BY THE MICRONESIANS THEMSELVES.

(D) IN THIS SPIRIT, USG HAS ARRANGED AND FACILITATED THIS AND NUMEROUS OTHER VISITS OF THIS TYPE. EMBASSY REP SHOULD AT TIME OF MEETING WITH GOJ, URGE JAPANESE TO HEAR AND TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY VIEWS OF MICRONESIAN DELEGATION.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE OF FOREGOING. VANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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